

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAGU 00285 231530Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 MCT-01

EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 PC-01 SIL-01 LAB-04

ACDA-12 OC-06 CCO-00 /096 W

-----108429 231550Z /50

O R 231459Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5443

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 0285

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (TODMAN, TERENCE A.), NU

SUBJECT: SITREP NO. 3 - NICARAGUA - TODMAN VISIT

1. CHAMORRO MEMORIAL MASS AND PROCESSION TOOK PLACE SATURDAY AFTER-
NOON WITH NO INCIDENTS. SPONSORS HAD BEEN PLEADING FOR LARGE TURN-
OUT AND NON-VIOLENT BEHAVIOR OF PARTICIPANTS AND ACHIEVED BOTH.

2. CONSERVATIVE PARTY (PCN) PRESENTS FORMAL PETITION THIS MORNING
(JANUARY 23) FOR POSTPONEMENT OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS CURRENTLY
SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 5.

3. WEEKEND REVELATIONS IN HEARINGS ON CHAMORRO MURDER ALLEGEDLY
IMPLICATING CORNELIO HUECK, FAUSTO ZELAYA AND PERHPAS OTHERS CON-
NECTED WITH SOMOZA GOVERNMENT (SEE SEPTTEL) MAY DAMPEN ARDOR FOR
GENERAL STRIKE (I.E., BUSINESS SHUTDOWN) BEING PROMOTED FOR TODAY
BY UDEL AND YOUNGER MEMBERS OF BUSINESS COMMUNITY. ASSASSINATION OF
CHAMORRO, CIRCUS-LIKE ATMOSPHERE OF INVESTIGATION AND FEAR OF
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STREET VIOLENCE WERE THREE FACTORS IN APPROACH TO BUSINESSMEN TO
SHUT DOWN BUT THINLY-DISGUISED OBJECTIVE WAS A STOPPAGE "UNTIL
SOMOZA RESIGNS". THERE SEEMS TO BE A GENERATIONAL GAP RELATED TO
POSSIBLE SHUTDOWN, WITH YOUNGER BUSINESSMEN PROMOTING SHUTDOWN
WITH OLDER GENERATION AND LEADING BANKERS (KEY ELEMENT IN ANY SHUT-
DOWN) REMAINING NON-COMMITTAL.

4. WILL REPORT LATER IN DAY ON EFFECTS OF ATTEMPTED GENERAL STRIKE
AS WELL AS SECURITY SITUATION RELATED TODMAN VISIT. LACK OF INCI-
DENTS IN RECENT DAYS ENCOURAGING SIGN.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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